

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



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ILLINOIS STATE WATER SURVEY

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CROPS

Excellent weather conditions across the State continue to accelerate field working activities. There was an average of 6.50 days rated as suitable for fieldwork with the northern half of the State the most active. The major field activities have been oat seeding, seed bed preparation, applying fertilizer, and machinery maintenance.

CORN planting as of Sunday, April 13 was 2% complete, compared to none planted on this date in 1985, and the 5-year average (1981-85) of less than 1%. Most of the acreage that is planted is in the southern two-thirds of the State.

WINTER WHEAT condition, on Friday, April 11, was reported as 2% excellent, 23% good, 33% fair, 23% poor, and 19% failure. Winterkill damage continues to be a significant problem in most districts. USDA page for grain and yield estimates for wheat will be released on May 9.

OAT SEEDING as of Sunday, April 13, was 80% complete, compared to 47% last year and the 5-year average (1981-85) of 41%.

ALFALFA condition, as of April 11, was reported as 1% excellent, 36% good, 45% fair, 15% poor, and 3% failure. Winterkill continues to be a problem in many areas.

PASTURE condition was reported as 1% excellent, 51% good, 41% fair, and 7% poor. Pastures were supplying about 40% of livestock roughage requirements, compared to 29% last year and the 5-year average of 25%.

SOIL MOISTURE on April 11 was reported as 54% short, 45% adequate, and 1% surplus.

WEATHER

TEMPERATURES for the week ending April 13, cooled from the previous seven days, but continued to remain above normal. Most locations were between 2°F and 4°F above normal, with the warmest readings in the Northwest, and in a band from Havana south to Kaskaskia. Daily mean highs were in the low to high 60's in the North, and in the high 60's and low 70's in the South. Lows were 25°F to 30°F lower.

PRECIPITATION for the week ending April 13, was very spotty, and generally low in magnitude. No precipitation was received in Crop Reporting District 1, nor in a circular area including Mason City and Jacksonville, nor in an area from Mattoon to McLeansboro to Mt. Vernon. In the remainder

of the State, precipitation was less than 0.2 inch, except for 1.87 inches at Carlyle on the 7th.

The OUTLOOK for April 14-21 indicates a near normal temperature pattern returning. Precipitation amounts should be near normal in the northern half of the State, but comparatively dry weather may persist in Southern Illinois. Cool weather with the possibility of freezing temperatures early in the period will be followed by a warming trend on the weekend and moderate temperatures early next week.

The 30-Day Outlook from March 30 thru April 30 is for temperatures to be above normal. Precipitation is expected to be near normal.

MARCH WEATHER SUMMARY

The State-wide average monthly TEMPERATURE was 5.1° above normal as temperatures ranged from 3 to 7° above normal in the northern two-thirds of Illinois, and from 1 to 3° above normal in the South. The Northwest District recorded the largest above normal variation (6.8° above normal). The southern districts recorded the least above normal variation (2.9° above normal). The first week was above normal when maximum temperatures climbed into the 40's in the North and 50's in the South. A short-lived cold period dropped the minimum temperatures to as low as 7° in the northern areas. A warm period returned to the State on the 9th and lasted until the 20th, sending maximum temperatures into the 50's and 60's. Brief, cool periods during the latter half of the month sent minimum readings to as low as 10° above zero in the North. By the end of the month, readings again climbed into the 80's which set new records.

PRECIPITATION averaged below normal in the State (-1.55 inches below normal). The largest below normal variation was in the West-Southwest District (1.83 inches below normal). Piper City in the East District, received the least amount of rainfall for March with a total of 0.15 of an inch. The area around Rend Lake, in the Southeast District, had the greatest amount of precipitation with a monthly total of 4.69 inches. Light and scattered amounts of precipitation fell during every week of March. Springfield received 1.45 inches of rain on the 31st.

The Northeast and East Districts received from 1 to 4 inches of snow during the month. The remaining sections received only trace amounts. On the 20th, Chicago recorded 4.1 inches of snow (which was the greatest amount).

ILLINOIS CROP REPORTING DISTRICT SUMMARY

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
	As of April 11									
suitable fieldwork:	7.0	6.5	7.0	7.0	7.0	6.5	6.5	5.5	6.5	6.50
Soil Moisture %:										
Short	45	55	50	100	85	50	40	30	25	54
Adequate:	55	45	50	0	15	50	60	65	75	45
Surplus :	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	1

CROP INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by county officials of Extension Service and SCS, and agribusiness managers.

Additional WEATHER INFORMATION is provided by Midwest Agr. Weather Serv. Ctr. (W. Lafayette, Ind.) and National Weather Service Cooperative Observers.

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

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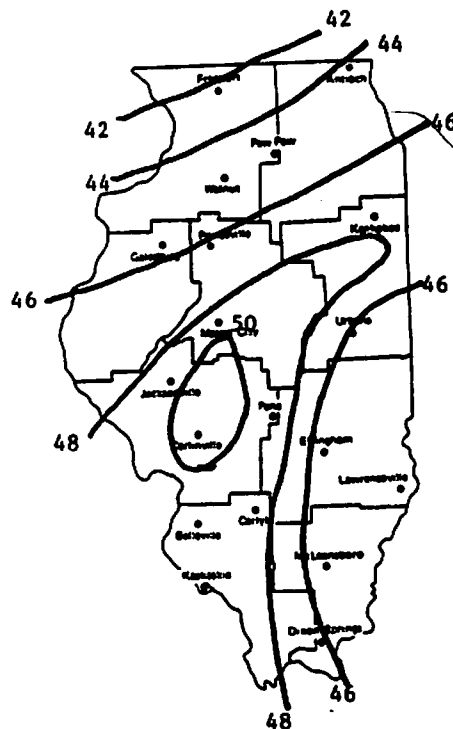
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PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVERAGES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

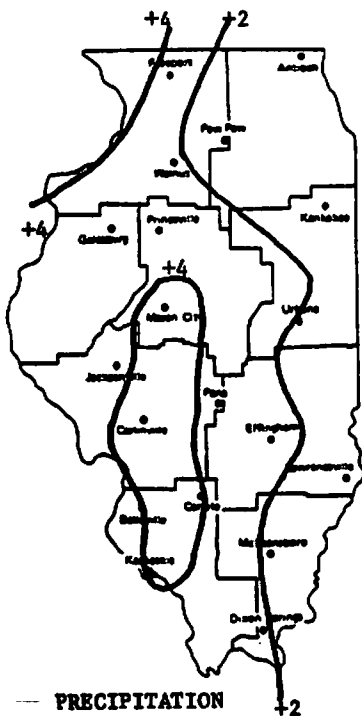
	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE
March	1.11	1.14	1.11	0.94	1.02	1.08	2.19	2.45	3.12
Departure	-1.32	-1.47	-1.68	-1.81	-1.69	-1.83	-1.21	-1.65	-1.27

Week ending Sunday, April 13

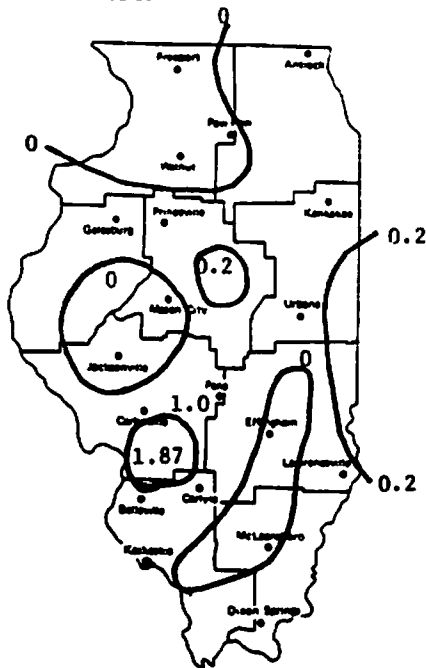
Location	Temperatures			Precipitation
	Maxi- mum	Mini- mum	Depar- ture	
Freeport	74	31	4	0.00
Paw Paw	76	29	1	0.00
Antioch	74	27	0	0.12
Galesburg	71	30	4	0.18
Walnut	77	29	0	0.00
Mason City	77	31	4	0.40
Princeville	73	23	0	0.14
Kankakee	81	27	4	0.08
Jacksonville	82	34	3	0.00
Pana	79	30	3	0.10
Urbana	76	31	2	0.12
Carlinville	78	36	4	0.06
Effingham	78	36	3	0.00
Lawrenceville	82	34	3	0.10
Belleville	76	34	3	0.00
St. Louis	81	36	4	0.11
St. Charles	80	37	0	0.16
St. Louis	87	36	5	0.03
Dixon Springs	80	35	2	0.00



MINIMUM 4" SOIL TEMPERATURE
BARE SOIL--APRIL 9, 1986(°F)



PRECIPITATION
FOR WEEK ENDING
APRIL 13



TEMPERATURE DEVIATIONS
FROM NORMAL FOR
WEEK ENDING APRIL 13